



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS: Cyberbullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance and is directed at a person or group of people through electronic communication, such as text messages, communication apps, or social media; and
- WHEREAS: Cyberbullying primarily involves verbal aggression, including threatening or harassing electronic communications, and relational aggression, including the spreading of false information; and
- WHEREAS: Cyberbullying can cause substantial emotional distress to the victim and may lead to anxiety, depression, or suicide among young people; and
- WHEREAS: Approximately nine percent of students in grades 6–12 have experienced cyberbullying, and 1 in 3 young people have received a cyber threat. Yet only 1 in 10 teens tell a parent if he or she has been the victim of cyberbullying; and
- WHEREAS: If a child is the victim of cyberbullying, he or she may avoid technological devices, appear stressed when receiving emails, text messages, or other forms of electronic communication, withdraw from family or friends, appear reluctant to attend school or social events, demonstrate signs of depression or low self-esteem, experience a decline in academic performance, or engage in poor eating or sleeping habits; and
- WHEREAS: Some bullying actions are classified as criminal and are therefore punishable by law; and
- WHEREAS: During Cyberbullying Prevention and Awareness Week, students, parents, teachers, and community leaders are encouraged to participate in activities intended to raise awareness of and offer solutions to cyberbullying in order to provide all children with a safe and welcoming environment in which to live, learn, and grow; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 19–25, 2018, as CYBERBULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 7th day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris M. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF